

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ICAE-00 PA-01
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SS-15 SP-02 PM-05 DODE-00
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DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN:DP
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 114515

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PEPR, EG, IS, US, XF

SUBJECT: SPOKESMAN'S REMARKS ON QUERIES TO EGYPTIANS

REFTEL: CAIRO 12100

1. SPOKESMAN'S REMARKS, WHICH WERE BASED ON GUIDANCE PROVIDED, WERE MEANT TO UNDERLINE THE INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WE ARE HAVING WITH BOTH PARTIES, NOT THE IDENTITY OF RESPONSE EXPECTED FROM EACH. THE CLEAR CONTEXT WAS THAT PRIME MINISTER BEGIN SAID THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT WOULD BE RESPONDING TO THE SEARCHING QUESTIONS PUT TO HIM AND FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN ONCE BEGIN RETURNS HOME. WHILE SPOKESMAN PARENTHETICALLY INDICATED WE HAD ASKED QUESTIONS OF EGYPT, THIS WAS NOT THE EMPHASIS AND NONE OF PRESS HERE HAS GIVEN SUCH AN INTERPRETATION TO THE ANSWER.

2. IN RESPONDING TO ANY GOE QUERIES, YOU SHOULD DRAW ON THE ABOVE, EXPLAINING OUR DESIRE TO SHOW THAT THE DIALOGUE OF THE LAST DAYS WITH ISRAEL WAS MATCHED BY OUR DIALOGUE
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WITH EGYPT, PRINCIPALLY THROUGH ATHERTON'S VISIT. YOU CAN ASSURE THE EGYPTIANS THAT SPOKESMAN COMMENTS WERE IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING AND DO NOT INDICATE WE ARE EXPECTING ANY ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN SPECIFIC SENSE. CHRISTOPHER

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